

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 ST-01 PER-03 /039 W

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R 031344Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6088

USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS VIENNA 5741

FOR STATE AND COMMERCE ONLY

BEWT FOR ABRAHAMSON, USIA FOR ICS/E. DAVIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, AU

SUBJECT: REFURBISHING OF EMBASSY ANNEX FOR USE BY EWTC

REF: A) VIENNA 5303 B) STATE 141540 (PARA 7)

1. AS STATED REF A WE BELIEVE EWTC SHOULD NOT MOVE INTO 5-ROOM SUITE OVER MEDICAL UNIT IN ONE OF EMBASSY ANNEXES BUT WE HAVE STUDIED FEASIBILITY AND COST OF SUCH MOVE.

2. BECAUSE OF PECULIAR CONFIGURATION OF SUITE ENTIRE 5 ROOMS WILL HAVE TO BE OCCUPIED REGARDLESS OF WHICH OF STAFFING PATTERNS UNDER CONSIDERATION IS ADOPTED. A TWO-AMERICAN EWTC CAN BARELY BE ACCOMMODATED IN THIS SPACE AND ONLY AT SACRIFICE OF LIBRARY AND BUSINESS FACILITIES AREA.

3. NO STRUCTURAL CHANGES NEED BE MADE BUT STAIRWELL AND ENTIRE FLOOR WILL HAVE TO BE COMPLETELY REFURBISHED, I.E., PAINTING, NEW CARPETING, NEW LIGHTING FIXTURES, CURTAINS, WIRING FOR TELEX AND XEROX, ETC., AT ESTIMATED COST OF \$ 16,500.

4. FURNITURE AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENT NOW IN CENTER COULD BE USED IN NEW PREMISES. MOVING COSTS ESTIMATED AT UNCLASSIFIED

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\$ 500.

5. ANNEX HAS DAMP BASEMENT WHICH IS NOT SUITABLE FOR STORAGE OF MERO SYSTEM OR OTHER EWTC MATERIAL WHICH WOULD BE STORED. ATTIC IS DRY BUT ITS ACCESSIBILITY IS SO SHARPLY LIMITED THAT WE WOULD RECOMMEND AGAINST ITS USE EXCEPT FOR STORAGE ON PERMANENT BASIS. IN LATTER CASE WE WOULD PREFER THAT MATERIAL BE DISPOSED OF BY SALE OR TRANSFER TO MOSCOW OR WARSAW.

6. AMERIKA HAUS HAS NO STORAGE SPACE BUT DIRECTOR OF USIA REGIONAL EXHIBITS CENTER (USIS/REX) HAS INDICATED REX MAY POSSIBLY BE ABLE TO COOPERATE WITH EWTC IN STORAGE OF MERO SYSTEM AND OTHER MATERIAL. USIS/REX IS NOW CLEANING OUT OF ITS WAREHOUSE MATERIAL WHICH IT WILL NOT USE MORE OR LESS REGULARLY IN ITS ON - GOING PROGRAM. DIRECTOR RIZZIE HAS INDICATED HE MAY BE ABLE TO STORE EWTC MATERIAL FREE OF CHARGE IF REX MIGHT OCCASIONALLY BORROW STORED EWTC EQUIPMENT FOR TEMPORARY USE IN USIS/REX PROGRAMS IN USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE. REQUEST BEWT COMMENT ON THIS POINT.

7. WAREHOUSING CHARGES BY PRIVATE STORAGE COMPANIES ARE PROHIBITIVE. WE HAVE REQUESTED ONLY ONE BID WHICH IS AUSTRIAN SCHILLINGS 70 PER MONTH PER SQUARE METER FOR STORAGE FOR FIXED PERIOD. SPACE FOR USE AS TEMPORARY STORAGE WERE GOODS WOULD BE REMOVED AND REPLACED FREQUENTLY COSTS SAME PLUS AS 18.40 PER HUNDRED KILOS OF STORED MATERIAL. WE ESTIMATE WE WOULD NEED ABOUT 70 SQUARE METERS FOR TOTAL OF AS 4,900 FOR \$ 297 PER MONTH AT CURRENT RATE FOR STORAGE FOR FIXED PERIOD. IF BEWT PLANS TO USE MATERIAL IN PROGRAMS IT WOULD ADD AS 276 OR \$ 16.75 PER MONTH FOR 1,500 KIOLS. IN VIEW OF HIGH COSTS WE WOULD RECOMMEND THAT EWTC MATERIAL BE SENT TO MOSCOW OR WARSAW RATHER THAN STORED. BUCHANAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975VIENNA05741
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750231-1106
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750785/aaaacybu.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 VIENNA 5303, 75 STATE 141540
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAR 2003 by ThomasVJ>; APPROVED <22 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REFURBISHING OF EMBASSY ANNEX FOR USE BY EWTC
TAGS: BEXP, AU
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006